

## Fort Lauderdale Cancels St. Patrick's Parade and Festival

*March 11, 2020* – After serious consideration and in an abundance of caution, the City of Fort Lauderdale has made the difficult decision to cancel the St. Patrick's Parade and Festival and related activities. These include the St. Patrick's kickoff event that was scheduled for Friday, March 13, as well as the Parade and Festival on Saturday, March 14.

"While it was an extremely difficult decision, we want to ensure that, as a City, we are doing everything we can to protect the health and safety of our community and help prevent the spread of the coronavirus by limiting public gatherings at City-sponsored events," said City Manager Chris Lagerbloom.

The City remains in close contact with Broward County, state and local health officials, as well as representatives from the healthcare, transportation, travel, and hospitality industries and continues to monitor the latest developments on the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. The City also participated in a conference call today with the White House on coronavirus where representatives emphasized that, currently, the most effective actions to help contain the virus are hand washing, proper hygiene, and maintaining social distance.

"We encourage everyone to remain vigilant, continue to monitor developments, practice proper hygiene and healthy habits, and continue to take proper preventative actions," added Lagerbloom.

The City reminds everyone that the Florida Department of Health has established a dedicated coronavirus call center at 1-866-779-6121 that is available 24 hours a day seven days a week, as well as a dedicated email address at COVID-19@flhealth.gov which the public can use for questions or clarifications on issues related to the coronavirus.

For additional information regarding coronavirus, please visit <a href="https://www.coronavirus.gov">www.coronavirus.gov</a> or <a href="https://www.floridahealth.gov">www.floridahealth.gov</a>.